

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A device ~~Device~~ for fixing a housing, especially ~~the housing pertaining to a motor vehicle battery~~, to a carrier plate, characterized in ~~that the device comprises~~ comprising a fixing bracket $[(4)]$ and a separate fixing element $[(9)]$, wherein the fixing bracket $[(4)]$ is fixed ~~or molded~~ onto an edge of the carrier plate $[(3)]$ projecting past the housing $[(1)]$ and a vertical limb $[(5)]$ that extends at a distance from ~~the housing~~ a wall of the housing and is parallel thereto, and wherein the separate fixing element $[(9)]$ can be inserted into ~~the~~ an intermediate region between the housing wall and the vertical limb $[(5)]$ of the fixing bracket $[(4)]$ and ~~securely wedged~~ fixedly secured therein.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 1, characterized in that wherein a contact surface for ~~one~~ a first end of the fixing element $[(9)]$ is provided on the wall of the housing $[(1)]$ and an engagement element ~~means for the other~~ a second end of the fixing element $[(9)]$ ~~are~~ is provided on the vertical limb $[(5)]$ of the fixing bracket $[(4)]$.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of Device according to Claim 1,
~~characterized in that on~~ wherein the housing wall ~~near the base, there is~~ comprises a laterally
projecting step ~~[[(2)]]~~, ~~which forms~~ said step forming a contact surface for ~~the one~~ a first end
of the fixing element ~~[[(9)]]~~, and ~~on the inside of~~ wherein the vertical limb ~~[[(5)]]~~ of the
fixing bracket ~~[[(4)]]~~ ~~there is~~ comprises an undercut ~~[[(11)]]~~ for engagement with ~~the other~~ a
second end of the fixing element ~~[[(9)]]~~.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of Device according to Claim 3,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said undercut comprises a catch ~~[[(12)]]~~ for engagement with
the fixing element ~~(9) is formed in the undercut (11).~~

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of Device according to Claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the fixing element ~~[[(9)]]~~ ~~consists of~~ comprises a top part
~~[[(14)]]~~ and a bottom part ~~[[(15)]]~~, ~~which are~~ said top and bottom part being interconnected
by a hinge ~~[[(16)]]~~ that permits a folding motion between ~~the two parts (14, 15)~~ the top and
bottom parts.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of Device according to Claim 5,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~two parts (14, 15) have~~ top and bottom parts each comprise
an essentially rectangular outline and ~~their~~ a complementary set of opposing side surfaces at
the hinge, ~~[[(16)]]~~ wherein said complementary set of opposing side surfaces form an angle
~~that permits~~ permit a folding motion between the ~~two parts (14, 15)~~ top and bottom parts.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said top part comprises a perpendicular rib ~~[[21]]~~ for engagement with the vertical limb ~~[[5]]~~ of the fixing bracket ~~[[4]]~~ ~~is provided on the end surface at the free end of the top part (14).~~

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said top part comprises a projection ~~[[20]]~~, whose said projection comprising an end surface ~~is provided~~ with a perpendicular rib ~~[[21]]~~ for engagement with the vertical limb ~~[[5]]~~ of the fixing bracket ~~[[4]]~~ ~~is formed on the free end of the top part (14).~~

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 5, ~~characterized in that there is~~ wherein said top part includes an opening (19) ~~in the top part (14).~~

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bottom part ~~[[15]]~~ increases in height from the hinge ~~[[16]]~~ outward to its ~~free~~ an opposing end, ~~the end surface of which is~~ said opposing end ~~being steeply sloped and on which~~ comprising a support surface, (27) ~~is formed that can be said support surface being capable of being~~ brought into contact with the side wall of the housing ~~[[1]]~~.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 9, characterized in that the surface of wherein the bottom part (15) rising from the hinge (16) outward ~~can be~~ is capable of being brought into contact with a support edge ~~[[(13)]]~~ formed on ~~the inside of~~ the vertical limb ~~[[(5)]]~~ of the fixing bracket ~~[[(4)]]~~.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 5, characterized in that wherein the top part (14) ~~consists of~~ comprises a thin-walled flat base ~~[[(17)]]~~ and a plurality of thin-walled side walls ~~[[(18)]]~~, and in that further wherein the bottom part ~~[[(15)]]~~ consists of a thin-walled base (23) ~~rising from the hinge (16) outward and~~ a plurality of thin-walled side walls (24), and in that the hinged connection (16) is realized at the edges of the facing side walls of the narrow sides of the parts (14, 15) forming an angle.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The device of ~~Device according to~~ Claim 5, characterized in that ~~on~~ wherein the bottom part (15) ~~there are~~ comprises a plurality of laterally extending projections ~~[[(28)]]~~, the said plurality of laterally extending projections comprising end surfaces ~~of which that~~ are aligned with the a support surface ~~[[(27)]]~~ on the free an end of the bottom part ~~[[(15)]]~~.

14. (NEW) An apparatus for fixedly securing a housing to a carrier plate, comprising:
a fixing bracket, said fixing bracket being fixedly secured to said carrier plate and being capable of receiving said housing; and

a fixing element, said fixing element being capable of engaging with said fixing bracket and said housing such that said fixing element wedges said housing fixedly within said fixing bracket.

15. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said housing comprises a motor vehicle battery housing.

16. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said fixing element comprises a top part and a bottom part, said top and bottom parts being operatively coupled by a hinge.

17. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said top and bottom parts are capable of pivoting about said hinge.

18. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein said fixing bracket comprises an indent, said indent being capable of coupling with said fixing element.

19. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein said fixing element further comprises a projecting rib, said projecting rib being capable of engaging with said indent.

20. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein said housing comprises a motor vehicle battery housing.